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8 **BEFORE THE**  
9 **BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING**  
10 **DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS**  
**STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

11 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

12 CHRISTINE P. OWENS  
a.k.a., CHRISTINE LOUISE OWENS  
13 2515 Mesa School Lane  
Santa Barbara, CA 93109

14 Registered Nurse License No. 464189

15 Respondent.

Case No. 2008-213

**ACCUSATION**

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17 Complainant alleges:

18 PARTIES

19 1. Ruth Ann Terry, M.P.H., R.N. (Complainant) brings this Accusation  
20 solely in her official capacity as the Executive Officer of the Board of Registered Nursing  
21 (Board), Department of Consumer Affairs.

22 2. On or about March 31, 1991, the Board issued Registered Nurse License  
23 No. 464189 to Christine P. Owens, also known as Christine Louise Owens (Respondent). The  
24 Registered Nurse License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought  
25 herein and will expire on June 30, 2008, unless renewed.

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1 (b) Use any controlled substance as defined in Division 10 (commencing with  
2 Section 11000) of the Health and Safety Code, or any dangerous drug or dangerous device as  
3 defined in Section 4022, or alcoholic beverages, to an extent or in a manner dangerous or  
4 injurious to himself or herself, any other person, or the public or to the extent that such use  
5 impairs his or her ability to conduct with safety to the public the practice authorized by his or her  
6 license.

7 (c) Be convicted of a criminal offense involving the prescription, consumption, or  
8 self-administration of any of the substances described in subdivisions (a) and (b) of this section,  
9 or the possession of, or falsification of a record pertaining to, the substances described in  
10 subdivision (a) of this section, in which event the record of the conviction is conclusive evidence  
11 thereof.”

12 8. Section 490 of the Code states:

13 “A board may suspend or revoke a license on the ground that the licensee has  
14 been convicted of a crime, if the crime is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or  
15 duties of the business or profession for which the license was issued. A conviction within the  
16 meaning of this section means a plea or verdict of guilty or a conviction following a plea of nolo  
17 contendere. Any action which a board is permitted to take following the establishment of a  
18 conviction may be taken when the time for appeal has elapsed, or the judgment of conviction has  
19 been affirmed on appeal, or when an order granting probation is made suspending the imposition  
20 of sentence, irrespective of a subsequent order under the provisions of Section 1203.4 of the  
21 Penal Code.”

22 9. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1444 states:

23 “A conviction or act shall be considered to be substantially related to the  
24 qualifications, functions or duties of a registered nurse if to a substantial degree it evidences the  
25 present or potential unfitness of a registered nurse to practice in a manner consistent with the  
26 public health, safety, or welfare.”

27 10. Section 125.3 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may  
28 request the administrative law judge to direct a licentiate found to have committed a violation or

1 violations of the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation  
2 and enforcement of the case.

3 FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

4 (Conviction of Substantially Related Crime)

5 11. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2761,  
6 subdivision (f) and 490, in conjunction with California Code of Regulations, title 16, section  
7 1444, in that Respondent has been convicted of a crime substantially related to the qualifications,  
8 functions or duties of a registered nurse, as follows:

9 a. On or about May 5, 2006, Respondent was convicted on a guilty plea for  
10 violating one count of Vehicle Code section 23103, subdivision (a), a misdemeanor (reckless  
11 driving on a highway), in the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, Metropolitan  
12 Judicial District, Case No. 6MP01468, entitled *The People of the State of California v. Christine*  
13 *Louise Owens*.

14 b. The circumstances surrounding the conviction are that on or about  
15 February 11, 2006, Respondent drove her vehicle upon a highway in a willful or wanton  
16 disregard for the safety of persons or property.

17 c. On or about April 13, 2004, Respondent was convicted on a guilty plea for  
18 violating one count of Vehicle Code section 23152, subdivision (a), a misdemeanor (driving  
19 under the influence of alcohol), in the Superior Court of California, County of Napa, Case No.  
20 CR116344, entitled *The People of the State of California v. Christine Owens*.

21 d. The circumstances surrounding the conviction are that on or about  
22 December 17, 2003, Respondent unlawfully drove a vehicle while under the influence of an  
23 alcoholic beverage.

24 SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

25 (Dangerous Use of Alcohol)

26 12. Respondent's license is subject to disciplinary action pursuant to section  
27 2761, subdivision (a) of the Code, on the ground of unprofessional conduct, as defined in section  
28 2762, subdivision (b), in that on or about December 17, 2003, Respondent used an alcoholic

1 beverage to an extent or in a manner dangerous or injurious to herself, and the public, when she  
2 operated a vehicle while under the influence of alcohol, as more fully set forth in paragraph 11  
3 above.

4 THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

5 (Conviction Involving the Consumption of Alcohol)


6 13. Respondent's license is subject to disciplinary action pursuant to section  
7 2761, subdivision (a) of the Code, on the ground of unprofessional conduct, as defined in section  
8 2762, subdivision (c), in that on or about April 13, 2004, Respondent was convicted of a crime  
9 involving the consumption of alcohol, as more fully set forth in paragraph 11 above.

10 PRAYER

11 WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein  
12 alleged, and that following the hearing, the Board issue a decision:

- 13 1. Revoking or suspending Registered Nurse License No. 464189, issued to  
14 Christine P. Owens, also known as Christine Louise Owens.
- 15 2. Ordering Christine P. Owens to pay the Board the reasonable costs of the  
16 investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section  
17 125.3.
- 18 3. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.
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20 DATED: 1/18/08

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23 RUTH ANN TERRY, M.B.H., R.N.  
24 Executive Officer  
25 Board of Registered Nursing  
26 State of California  
27 Complainant  
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